

New Mexico [Mr. BINGAMAN] were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 1177 proposed to S. 830, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act and the Public Health Service Act to improve the regulation of food, drugs, devices, and biological products, and for other purposes.

At the request of Mr. DURBIN his name was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1177 proposed to S. 830, supra.

AMENDMENT NO. 1182

At the request of Mr. HATCH the name of the Senator from Oregon [Mr. WYDEN] was added as a cosponsor of amendment No. 1182 proposed to S. 830, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act and the Public Health Service Act to improve the regulation of food, drugs, devices, and biological products, and for other purposes.

NOTICE OF HEARINGS

COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I would like to announce for information of the Senate and the public that a Executive Session of the Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources will be held on Wednesday, September 24, 1997, 9:30 a.m., in SD-430 of the Senate Dirksen Building. The following are on the agenda to be considered: S.1186, Workforce Investment Partnership Act of 1997; and nominations, Public Health Service Corps, 128 candidates. For further information, please call the committee, 202/224-5375.

COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND HUMAN RESOURCES

Mr. JEFFORDS. Mr. President, I would like to announce for information of the Senate and the public that a hearing of the Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources will be held on Thursday, September 25, 1997, 10 a.m., in SD-430 of the Senate Dirksen Building. The subject of the hearing is Tobacco Settlement, part II. For further information, please call the committee, 202/224-5375.

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Mr. MURKOWSKI. Mr. President, for the information of the Senate and the public I am announcing that the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources will hold an oversight hearing to receive testimony on the impacts of a new climate treaty on U.S. labor, electricity supply, manufacturing, and the general economy.

The hearing will be held on Tuesday, September 30, 1997, at 9:30 a.m., in room SD-366 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building.

Those interested in testifying or submitting material for the hearing record should write to the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, U.S. Senate, Washington, DC 20510 attn: David Garman at (202) 224-8115.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

TRIBUTE TO THE UNIFORMED SERVICES UNIVERSITY OF THE HEALTH SCIENCES UPON ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY

• Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize the 25th Anniversary of the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences [USUHS]. Over the past 25 years, USUHS has provided an invaluable service to our Armed Forces and to our Nation.

The founders of USUHS wanted to create a medical school to produce physicians who would remain on active duty for a full career, ensuring the continuity of lessons learned in the practice of uniformed medicine. This concept has made USUHS a unique institution which enables doctors to target their skills to meet the changing demands of the modern battlefield.

USUHS is essential to our military mission because it ensures readiness. Readiness doesn't just mean supplying our troops with the best equipment and training. It also means that we are ready to provide the best possible medical care in the worst possible situations. If we send our military to battle without skilled and experienced medical professionals—we are sending them out unarmed.

This concept for medical training was a success during recent conflicts. During Operation Desert Storm, USUHS physicians were immediately deployable to combat areas and utilized their training in military combat, unconventional warfare, and preventive medicine. This saved countless lives during the gulf war and will keep our troops safe in any future military conflict.

I am proud of USUHS's accomplishments. I hope they will continue serving our armed services by keeping them safe and healthy well into the 21st century. •

AVIATION INSURANCE REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 1997

• Mr. GORTON. Mr. President, I am pleased to join with my distinguished colleagues, Senator MCCAIN, Senator HOLLINGS, and Senator FORD, to introduce the aviation insurance reauthorization Act of 1997. The bill would reauthorize the aviation insurance program for five years. The program is set to expire at the end of this fiscal year.

The aviation insurance program, commonly known as war-risk insurance, has been in place since 1951. It insures air carriers against losses resulting from war, terrorism, or other hostile acts, when commercial insurance is canceled, or is unavailable at reasonable rates. For an air carrier to qualify for the program, the President must determine that a flight is essential to the foreign policy interests of the United States.

The FAA can issue both premium and nonpremium insurance under the pro-

gram. Premium insurance is issued to air carriers flying commercial operations in foreign air commerce, or between two or more points outside the United States. Nonpremium insurance is issued to air carriers flying missions for Federal agencies, such as the Departments of Defense and State, that have indemnification agreements with the Department of Transportation. Nonpremium insurance accounts for 99 percent of the aviation insurance program.

Both the premium and nonpremium insurance provides hull coverage for the loss of, or damage to aircraft. The insurance also provides liability coverage for death or bodily injury, and damage to property, baggage and personal effects. Program coverage is limited to the amount of insurance that an air carrier's commercial policy would have provided. The program is self-financed through the aviation insurance revolving fund.

Reauthorization of the aviation insurance program is noncontroversial. The program enjoys the support of all of its participants. I want to note, however, that my bill adds a new element to the program. It authorizes the Federal Aviation Administration [FAA] to borrow money from the Federal treasury to pay a claim, in the event that the revolving fund is not sufficient to cover a large claim, or simultaneous claims. I believe that this provision is necessary to ensure that timely payments for hull losses can be made to air carriers. These same carriers typically lease aircraft under agreements that stipulate that the carriers must repair or replace damaged aircraft within 30 days of the incident.

Although the Congressional Budget Office claims that this provision does not have a significant budget impact, I understand that the Office of Management and Budget [OMB] may disagree. The FAA and the OMB are working with the aviation leadership on the Commerce Committee to resolve this issue. I pledge my full cooperation, and I hope and expect that we can resolve this issue before the Commerce Committee reports out the legislation.

The Commerce Committee plans to report out the bill as early as next week. The House plans to approve companion legislation next week, as well. I urge my colleagues to work with me to reauthorize the aviation insurance program before it expires at the end of the fiscal year. •

IN RECOGNITION OF 10TH ANNUAL HEAT'S ON DAY

• Mr. LEVIN. Mr. President, I rise today to bring to my colleagues' attention to the HEAT'S ON partnership of Grand Rapids, MI, which serves people who need special assistance in preparation for the harsh winter months that lie ahead.

On Saturday, September 27, 1997, plumbers and steamfitters of UA Local